[Translation]

Appointment of State Tourism Development Corporation as Booking Agents

2196. SHRI BHERU LAL MEENA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to appoint the State Tourism Development Corporations as booking agents for the convenience of domestic and foreigner tourists;

(b) if so, whether the Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation has been appointed as booking agent;

(c) if so, whether these corporations are being allotted booking quota accordingly; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Some package tours are organised by the State Tourism Development Corporations including Rajasthan Tourism Development Corporation generally on week ends by issuing passengers a package tour ticket inclusive of rail tariff, catering, sight seeing etc. For such week and package tours as finalised in consulation with Ministry of Railways, quotas have also been allotted to them in the specified trains.

[English]

IA Passenger Services

2197. SHRI VIJAY PATEL:
SHRI DILEEP SANGHANI:
SHRI KASHIRAM RANA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have improved or propose to improve the customer services on ground and in the Air;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the expenditure incurred thereon and the operating revenue of Indian Airlines during 1995-96 and 1996-97?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM): (a) and (b) Indin Airlines has taken various steps in the following areas to ensure improvement in the customers services both on ground and in the Air:

(i) Product improvement.

(ii) Commercial initiatives.

(iii) Passengers facilitation.

(c) The details of expenditure incurred on food services and other amenities for the passengers and operating revenue of Indian Airlines for the years 1995-96 and 1996-97 (Estimated) are as under:-

Year	Expenditure on Food and other Amenities for the Passengers	Operating Revenue (Rs. in crores)
1995-96	74.99	2466.81
1996-97	76-00	2755.50

(Budget estimates)

Diversion of Chennai-Mumbai Mail to Certain Parts of Karnataka

2198. SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to divert the Chennai-Mumbai Mail so that certain parts of Karnataka are included in its route;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the proposed extension of the route is likely to cost an extra rupees 60 to rupees 70 per ticket to passengers travelling by sleeper class and also the four to five hours in addition to two days take at present to complete the trains's Journeys;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government propose to review this decision; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (f) Do not arise.

[Translation]

International Air Service for Foreign Airlines

2199. SHRI RAJKESHAR SINGH:
SHRI SATYA DEO SINGH:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state: